International School of Monterrey

Junior High School **8th Grade**
Trimester ___ **Literature**

Name _____ **Date** _____ **List #**____- ____

Identify Author's Purpose

Read the text.

I first went to Mary's Hairy Salon a few months ago. Oh my Gosh, was I impressed! Unlike other hairdressers, who pretend to hear you explain what you want and then just start cutting away, Mary really listened. I showed her a picture of the style I wanted, and that is exactly what I got. She took the time to get acquainted with my hair, and she was very knowledgeable. And one of the best parts? It was affordable. For someone whose hair needs maintenance every six weeks or so, that makes all the difference. I highly recommend Mary!

____ **1.** Which author's purpose is suggested by the text?
- **A.** To persuade readers to try Mary's Hairy Salon.
- **B.** To inform readers about Mary's Hairy Salon.

____ **2.** Which best shows that the author's purpose is to persuade readers to try Mary's Hairy Salon?
- **A.** The author provides standards for judging a hairdresser and explains how Mary meets those standards.
- **B.** The author admits that her hair needs maintenance every six weeks or so.

Read the text.

Place four eggs in a large saucepan. Add enough cold water to cover the eggs by one inch. Slowly bring the water to a boil over medium heat. As soon as the water begins to boil, remove the pan from the burner. Cover it and let the eggs sit for about ten minutes. Then drain the water from the pan. You will notice, though, that a hot hard-boiled egg is not easy to peel. To cool the eggs, rinse them with cold water. Then, when you're ready to peel an egg, gently tap it on the counter until the shell cracks.

____ **3.** Which author's purpose is suggested by the text?
- **A.** To teach readers how to make hard-boiled eggs.
- **B.** To convince readers that making hard-boiled eggs is easy.

____ **4.** Which best shows that the author's purpose is to teach readers how to make hard-boiled eggs?
- **A.** The author uses precise language, such as slowly and gently.
- **B.** The author outlines a specific process for readers to follow.

Read the text.

Slouched at a corner table in a forgotten diner in a quiet part of town, Andy Jordan looks as if he just rolled out of bed. Jordan, who is known as the "difficult one" in the boy band Momentum, is wearing a pair of heavily ripped jeans and a white T-shirt. His black leather jacket looks as if it might have been run over by a bulldozer. A faded straw fedora is pulled low over his forehead, casting a shadow across brown eyes fringed with ridiculously thick eyelashes.

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____ **5.** Which author's purpose is suggested by the text?

A. To describe Andy Jordan's appearance.
B. To convince readers that Andy Jordan is an important musician.

____ **6.** Which best shows that the author's purpose is to describe Andy Jordan's appearance?
A. The author informs readers that Andy Jordan is known as the "difficult one" in the band.
B. The author provides specific details like slouched at a corner table and heavily ripped jeans.

Read the text.

You want to hear something really dumb?
The State of Ohio has put into effect a "Buy Ohio" law, saying that any state agency has to buy things made in Ohio, even if they cost more and aren't as good as the same things made someplace else.
By implication, the law suggests that the ordinary citizens of Ohio, as well as government agencies, ought to buy products made in their own state.
The governor of Ohio explained what he thought was the necessity for the law by saying, "We have a lot of unemployment."
This makes Ohio different? Every state has a lot of unemployment.

____ **7.** Which author's purpose is suggested by the text?
A. To inform readers about the "Buy Ohio" law.
B. To argue that the "Buy Ohio" law is foolish.

____ **8.** Which best shows that the author's purpose is to argue that the "Buy Ohio" law is foolish?
A. The author explains how the law will change state agencies' purchasing policies.
B. The author begins by stating a negative judgment, which others might disagree with.

Read the text.

I become aware for the first time today of the immense silence in which I am lost. Not a silence so much as a stillness—for there are a few sounds: the creak of some bird in a juniper tree, an eddy of wind which passes and fades like a sigh, the ticking of the watch on my wrist—slight noises which . . . exaggerate my sense of the surrounding, overwhelming peace. . . . If I look at the small device strapped to my wrist the numbers, even the sweeping second hand, seem meaningless, almost ridiculous. No travelers, no campers, no wanderers have come to this part of the desert today and for a few moments I feel and realize that I am very much alone.

From Edward Abbey, Desert Solitaire. Copyright 1968 by Edward Abbey

____ **9.** Which author's purpose is suggested by the text?
A. To convince readers that the desert is a beautiful place.
B. To describe how it feels to be in a desert wilderness.

____ **10.** Which best shows that the author's purpose is to describe how it feels to be in a desert wilderness?
A. The author uses formal language, such as small device.
B. The author includes sensory details like the creak of some bird to help the reader imagine the scene.

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